

Lepadidæ, with which they so constantly live associated, to be essentially pelagic. The position which they invariably occupy in drift-wood proves that they have attacked the wood while it has been in a floating position; for as the wood floats in the water it will be found that the entrances to the tubes of the shipworms are always on the upper portion, where they are frequently brought into direct contact with the atmosphere, while the more deeply immersed angle of the log is hung with vast masses of barnacles. If the grounds on which those Tereidines frequently found living in floating timber drifted to our shores by westerly winds are excluded from our fauna be valid and just, then, all we have to say is that Mr. Jeffreys has established a precedent which, if followed out in other branches of science, would lead us to refuse to admit into our fauna all occasional ornithological visitants, the *Ianthinæ*, *Salpa*, many oceanic Crustacea, *Physalia*, *Velella*, *Diphyes*, &c., and all the Lepadidæ except *Scalpellum vulgare*. We commend to Mr. Jeffreys's notice the following observations of Mr. Darwin upon the genus *Lepas*, which presents us with an exact parallelism to *Teredo*:—"The species abound over the Arctic, temperate and tropical parts of the Atlantic, Indian, and Pacific Oceans, and are always, or nearly always, attached to floating objects, dead or alive. The same species have enormous ranges; in proof of which I may mention that, of the six known species, five are found nearly all over the world, including the British coast, and the one not found on our shores (the *L. australis*) apparently inhabits the whole circumference of the Southern Ocean."

In conclusion, we will only add that the more we see of 'British Conchology,' the more do we recognize the value of the work both to conchologists and Tertiary palæontologists, and the more confidently are we able to commend it to our readers. And now, Mr. Jeffreys, we shall for the present wish you good-bye, looking forward with especial interest to the appearance of your next volume, and anxious to learn what you are going to do with those horribly tormenting *Odostomiæ*, over the study of which we poor conchologists have so often strained our eyes, and racked our brains, and scratched our heads in the agonies of perplexed doubt! We will not say, "Woodman, spare *that* tree," but rather, "Don't be afraid of the pruning-knife."

MISCELLANEOUS.

Capture of Muscicapa parva at Scilly.

To Dr. J. E. Gray, F.R.S. &c.

SIR,—It may be interesting to you to know that another example of *Muscicapa parva*, very nearly in the same state of plumage as its predecessor at Scilly, was captured on Sunday week, at Trescoe Isle, Scilly. The variation in its plumage consists in the scapularies and wing-coverts being more decidedly bordered with rufous. This, I think, shows it to be a bird of the year. I expect it breeds in Britain.

Yours obediently,

Penzance, Nov. 14, 1865.

EDWARD HEARLE RODD.